

In re Patent Application of:
CHIU ET AL.
Serial No. 10/797,869
Filed: MARCH 9, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 8, 10 to 12, 24, 25, 50 to 53, 56 to 58 and 71 to 80 are currently pending. Claims 1 to 8, 10 to 12, 24, 25, 50 to 53, 56 to 58 and 71 to 80 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in view of United States Patent No. 5,901,263 (Gaio et al) in combination with United States Patent No. 6,364,709 (Jones) and 6,335,869 (Branch et al).

The claims of the application have been amended to overcome the objections of the Examiner and to better define the invention in light of the prior art. In particular, claims 50 to 53, 56 to 58 and 71 to 74 have been canceled, and the dependencies of claims 75 to 80 have been amended.

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the pull-actuator as including two interconnecting actuators, a first pull actuator, which slides along the nose receptacle when pulled, and a second actuator, which de-latches the pull-actuator from the cage assembly.

In the Gaio et al reference the first manually engageable actuator is a pivoting bail actuator 102, which does not slide relative to the nose receptacle, i.e. it only pivots. The bail is pulled to remove the transceiver from the cage, but the bail does not slide relative to the nose receptacle nor does the pulling action disengage the module from the cage, only the rotation of the bail disengages the latch from the cage. Accordingly, a compound application of force is required to remove the module from the cage, i.e. a rotation and a pulling force, which is not always easy in highly

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populated systems. Similarly, the device disclosed in the Branch et al device includes a retaining member 80, which is depressed to release a lug 84 from a latching aperture 82. The retaining member 80 is a single use device, which is essentially rotated out of position to disengage the lug 84 from the latching aperture 82. Therefore, there is no pull-actuator, which enables a single pulling action to disengage the latch from the cage and remove the module from the cage. To remove the transceiver device disclosed in the Branch et al reference, the retaining member 80 is depressed and the module is simply grasped at the sides thereof to pull it out of the host device. The protrusions 40 relate to supporting surfaces for a printed circuit board within the housing, and have no relation to a latching device for locking the module in a cage assembly.

Claims 4, 5 and 6 further disclose novel features of the invention, i.e. the interaction of grooves and rails facilitating the sliding action of the pull-actuator. Moreover, claims 7 and 8 define stop features provided on the pull actuator to ensure that the sliding pull actuator does not separate from the nose receptacle. Neither of these features are disclosed or even inferred in the cited prior art.

New claims 81 to 84 have been added to ensure all aspects of the invention are protected, in particular to define the relationship between the de-latch puller and the latching actuator.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are in condition for

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allowance. Early and favorable consideration would be appreciated.

Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1465 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has been forwarded via facsimile number 703-872-9306 to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, this 17 day of June 2005.

J. Kallmanns)